

Page 14, between lines 5 and 6, insert the following heading:

--BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS--;

between lines 18 and 19, insert the following heading:

--DETAILED DISCUSSION OF PREFERRED EMBODIMENTS--.

Page 15, line 29, delete "the".

### IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend claim 1 and add new claims 16-18 as follows:

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Claim 1 (*Amended*) Method for measuring the distance of an object from a measuring device, comprising the following steps:

- a) emitting a signal;
- b) directing the signal towards an object;
- c) detecting the signal diffused by the object;
- d) comparing the detected signal with the emitted signal so as to obtain a comparison signal representing the distance [travelled] traveled by the emitted signal and the object diffused signal;

[characterized in comprising the steps of:]

- e) wherein, prior to carrying out [before] step a) there is a measuring device calibration step so as to associate [to] a prefixed distance value with a prefixed comparison signal value [a prefixed distance value];